

Team for having captured its first National Championship. On June 2, the team emerged victorious from a field of 30 qualifying teams over six days to win the NCAA Golf Championship. The Tide golf team represents only the second University of Alabama men's sport other than football to take a national title in school history.

The Crimson Tide defeated Illinois 4–1 in the match play championship round at the par–70, 7,319 yard Capital City Club Crabapple Course in Milton, Georgia. Junior Bobby Wyatt of Mobile birdied five of his first seven holes and finished his match on the 13th green with a chip into the hole from more than 50 feet. Juniors Trey Mullinax and Cory Whitsett as well as senior Scott Strohmeier helped clinch the title by winning their matches.

Before entering into the 2013 NCAA Championship, Alabama was ranked No. 2 nationally behind the University of California. The Crimson Tide went on to win eight of their nine tournaments including the SEC Championship, the NCAA Baton Rouge Regional and the NCAA Championships. Three members of the team entered the championship tournament ranked in the top 10: Bobby Wyatt—No.3, Cory Whitsett—No.4, and sophomore Justin Thomas—No. 8.

The Crimson Tide National Champion team members and staff include: Lee Knox, Dru Love, Tom Lovelady, Trey Mullinax, Robby Prater, William Sellers, Scott Strohmeier, Justin Thomas, Cory Whitsett, Bobby Wyatt, Coach Jay Seawell, and Assistant Coach Rob Bradley.

On behalf of the people of Alabama and my colleagues in the Alabama Delegation, I wish to extend personal congratulations to Coach Jay Seawell, Assistant Coach Rob Bradley and the University of Alabama Men's Golf Team for their rising to the challenge and bringing home the NCAA Championship trophy to Tuscaloosa. Roll Tide!

#### HONORING ALEX WESTHUES

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 5, 2013*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Alex Westhues. Alex is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Alex has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Alex has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Alex has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Alex Westhues for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CONGRATULATING DR. TRIFON LASKARIS ON RECEIPT OF HIS 200TH U.S. PATENT

#### HON. PAUL TONKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 5, 2013*

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable individual and prolific inventor whose pioneering research into medical imaging has helped to transform modern day medicine. Dr. Trifon Laskaris, a Chief Scientist at General Electric's Global Research Center, was recently awarded his 200th U.S. patent—a benchmark previously reached by only one other GE researcher—the inventor of the light bulb and founder of the company's research center, Thomas Edison.

For the past four decades, Dr. Laskaris has worked at GE Global Research on technology to advance magnetic resonance imaging, or MRI. He has spent much of his career directing GE's research into superconducting magnets. It is these high-power magnets that make MRI possible. Suffice it to say that without the work of Dr. Laskaris and his team, MRI would not be where it is today—a vital diagnostic tool used in hospitals around the world. There is no telling how many millions of people are leading healthier lives today because of the technology that Dr. Laskaris developed.

New York's Capital Region has a rich history as a hub for cutting-edge science and technology. From the birth of General Electric more than 120 years ago, to the emergence of "Tech Valley" as a center for nanotechnology research and development, upstate New York continues to be at the forefront of invention and innovation that is making America and the world a better place. Dr. Laskaris is an inspiration to us all, and his achievement is a testament to the fruits that creativity and steadfast pursuit of technological advancement can bear.

I congratulate Dr. Trifon Laskaris on this milestone achievement and, on behalf of this body and the citizens of the 20th District of New York, I thank him for his lifelong dedication to scientific research in the service of humanity.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2014

SPEECH OF

#### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2013*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2216) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes:

Mr. FARR. Madam Chair, on Memorial Day, we remembered the patriotic sacrifice of those that have lost their lives in service to our country and today, we renew our commitment to keep our promise to our nation's more than

2 million troops and reservists, their families, 22.2 million veterans, and 35.5 million family members of living veterans or survivors of deceased veterans.

This committee has a strong history of working in a bipartisan way to produce a bill that supports our active duty servicemembers, our veterans and their families, and this bill is no exception.

I commend the Chairman and Ranking Member for their hard work in ensuring that this bill is another significant step in fulfilling the promise our country made to leave no veteran behind.

For example, even though Congress has fully funded the VA budget request for additional staffing and technology, the disability claims backlog continues to grow.

While the VA has taken steps to rectify this deplorable backlog, we owe it to our veterans to exercise our Congressional oversight responsibilities to ensure that the VA actually fixes the backlog.

I am pleased the bill before us today includes language I requested, with some of my Northern CA colleagues, that would add additional oversight requirements for the Veterans Benefits Administration and require regular updates from the VA on the status of the backlog.

Through regular updates from the VA, we ensure accountability and end the backlog.

Additionally, I am pleased to see that this bill again recognizes the burial needs of our veterans in rural areas. The National Cemetery Administration has repeatedly stated that 10% of all veterans will not have access to a burial option in a national, state or tribal cemetery within 75 miles of their home.

While the VA strategy outlined in the FY13 budget request to extend burial services to some rural veterans is a good first step, it fails to address a long-term strategy. The FY13 bill and report instructed the VA to correct this oversight and the FY14 report language reaffirms the need for the VA to develop a long-term strategy to provide burial services for all our nation's veterans, including those who live in rural areas. Veterans in my congressional district do not have access to a VA burial option, so I look forward to the Secretary's report on the VA's long-term strategy to address their burial needs.

I would note that while this bill is \$1.4 billion above last year's enact level, it is also \$1.4 billion less than the President's request. While I am glad to see this bill has been protected from senseless cuts imposed by sequestration, I strongly believe this Congress needs to get back to the balanced approach we agreed to in the bipartisan Budget Control Act.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
EQUAL PAY ACT

#### HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 5, 2013*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, fifty years ago when President Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act of 1963, he stated that "when women enter the labor force they will find equality in their pay envelopes." Yet a half century later, women still do not have equality in their pay. In 1963, women made an average of 59 cents

for every dollar earned by men. Today, women nationwide make on average 77 cents for every dollar earned by men. According to a new report from the American Association of University Women, women in my Congressional District still earn only 74 cents for every dollar earned by men—progress, but not nearly enough.

With the 50th anniversary of the Equal Pay Act upon us, and as American women continue to encounter lower pay in the workplace, I can think of no better action to take than to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act.

Here's why.

If the United States adopts a policy of paycheck fairness, it will put \$200 billion more into the economy every year. That comes out to about \$137 for every white woman per pay check, and approximately \$300 for every woman of color who are doubly discriminated against.

And with a record number of women in the workforce, wage discrimination is hurting the majority of American families, both in terms of their economic security today and their retirement security tomorrow. This means fewer resources to pay the mortgage, send kids to college, or have a decent retirement.

Passing the Paycheck Fairness Act will close loopholes that allow pay discrimination to continue. The bill requires employers to demonstrate pay disparity is related to job—performance—not gender. It prohibits employer retaliation for sharing salary information with coworkers, and it strengthens remedies for pay discrimination by increasing compensation women can seek.

Fifty years after President Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act, the law has brought more equity to the workplace, but neither President Kennedy nor today's leaders can say our job is done.

Pass the Paycheck Fairness Act because pay equity means economic growth for America's women and their families.

IN HONOR OF DR. JOSEPH T. COX,  
THE 8TH HEADMASTER OF THE  
HAVERFORD SCHOOL

**HON. PATRICK MEEHAN**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 5, 2013*

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, we honor Dr. Joseph T. Cox, the 8th Headmaster of The Haverford School, who is retiring after 15 truly transformative years at Haverford School, an all boys Pre-K through 12 independent school located in the suburbs of Philadelphia. Dr. Cox came to The Haverford School in the summer of 1998 as a decorated Vietnam War veteran who had risen to the rank of Colonel in the United States Army. Colonel Cox provided great service to our country as a Commander of the 101st Airborne Division Battalion. Not only was Dr. Cox a successful military officer, but he was also a gifted poet who graduated from Lafayette College and earned his Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina.

Despite this somewhat unique combination of talents and skills, Dr. Cox came to The Haverford School as a largely unknown per-

son with no experience in the world of independent schools in 1998. However, fifteen glorious years later, Dr. Cox leaves The Haverford School with his personal imprint imbedded throughout the entire community. Dr. Cox's strong servant leadership, his vision, his passion and his compassion had a lasting impact on the many boys and young men who attended Haverford during his fifteen year tenure.

During his tenure, Haverford graduated 1,240 young men. Dr. Cox opened the doors of Haverford to a much broader and more diverse group of boys and young men and he pushed to meaningfully increase the financial assistance for the boys by five-fold in order to assure that Haverford attracted a truly remarkable group of talented boys and young men of character.

Dr. Cox also implemented a nationally recognized and highly acclaimed faculty performance system coupled with a program of performance pay and he obtained a strong commitment from the Board of Trustees to pay Haverford's teachers at the top of the pay scale for local independent day schools. This program was critical to attracting and retaining a group of extraordinary teachers, coaches, and senior administrators to Haverford.

Dr. Cox led and carefully oversaw a facilities renaissance at Haverford with the building of a new Field House, a new Lower School and a new and expanded Upper School during his tenure. He also led a series of record-setting capital campaigns and he led fund raising efforts which resulted in contributions of more than \$100 million to Haverford during his tenure.

Most importantly, Dr. Cox installed and encouraged the development of a series of game changing programs designed to make Haverford a more holistic place. Included among his programmatic accomplishments were development of a novel and now much copied school-wide decision education program. He also put in place a student-run Honor Code, a school-wide servant leadership program, numerous character education programs and an important community guidepost with his Principles of Community.

Dr. Cox encouraged excellence in academics, the arts and athletics. During his tenure, the arts programs flourished with new studios, new programs and the establishment of an annual Arts Week celebration. Athletics enjoyed a strong resurgence during Dr. Cox's tenure with Haverford teams winning 41 Inter-Ac championships.

In short, Dr. Cox, a man of passion, compassion, and vision led a remarkable renaissance at The Haverford School and his servant leadership made a genuine difference in the lives of the entire Haverford School community.

HONORING THOMAS MILTON WILSON, JR. FOR LIFETIME SERVICE  
TO OUR NATION

**HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 5, 2013*

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Thomas Milton Wilson, Jr. for a life-

time of courageous service to our nation as a pilot in the United States Air Force.

Wilson was born on April 12, 1919, following the First World War. As a young man, he entered the U.S. Army Air Corps to begin training to become a pilot, as it was becoming apparent to the world we would soon be at war again. He proudly earned his wings and began flying the first of countless combat missions from North Africa and Italy and into enemy territory in fortress Europe during World War II.

Following his valiant wartime service in the Air Force, Wilson decided to continue the mission of preserving the freedoms we hold so dear. He remained in the USAF Reserves for an additional 20 years and retired as a Colonel.

Our country and many more around the globe are the beneficiaries of his selflessness and vigilance. It is with great pride that I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Thomas Milton Wilson, Jr. and extending thanks from a grateful nation.

HONORING COLONEL MARK C.  
GARDNER'S RETIREMENT

**HON. PHIL GINGREY**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 5, 2013*

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel Mark C. Gardner and to recognize his lifetime of service to our country.

On June 28, Col. Gardner will retire from the United States Army after thirty years of sacrifice and service to this great nation.

While he currently serves as the Georgia National Guard's State Inspector General, he has worked in many different capacities. In 1983, Col. Gardner's first assignment was with U.S. Army Missile Command, and he has since been assigned to infantry, maintenance, and forward support duties across the world. His career has taken him to Korea, Panama, Afghanistan, Iraq, and several military installations here in the United States.

For his distinguished leadership throughout his career, Col. Gardner has been awarded with decorations like the Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with six Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Korea Defense Service Medal, the Army Reserve Service Medal, the Parachutist Badge, and the Air Assault Badge.

Col. Gardner has played an invaluable role in the U.S. Armed Forces for decades and he will surely be missed.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 11th District of Georgia, my deepest thanks to Col. Gardner for devoting his life to upholding the Constitution of the United States and to the protection of its citizens. I wish him a happy—and well-deserved—retirement.